

I have never filed any comments to the FCC before, but the current petitions to eliminate or further reduce the morse requirements will be do even greater harm to the amateur radio service than has already occurred in recent years.

I am 40 years old, and have been an actively licensed amateur since age 13.

Prior to that time, I witnessed firsthand the destruction of citizens band radio by the FCC's inattention and relaxation of the rules governing the citizen's band spectrum. Even today, that spectrum is still largely a wasteland. I aspired to be something better, and the licensing standards were difficult and strict. Because of that, I became something better.

Over the past dozen years or so, the licensing standards have been eroded, the result being that the amateur radio service has suffered. I beg the FCC to retain the licensing standards at the bare minimum where they exist today. Please ensure that the amateur radio service in this country will continue to maintain 5 wpm morse as minimum qualification for operation on the high frequency bands. I wholeheartedly endorse Mr. Napurano's petition for morse retention (RM-10806). Though I am not much of a morse operator anymore, I can still remember learning the code as a 13 year old. It took me one afternoon to memorize it, and less than a week after that to reach 5 wpm. Anyone who is not willing to put up the little effort and token dedication required to reach that level, is a person not worth being in the amateur radio service to begin with.

Respectfully,

Jack Emerson W4TJE